

IDAHO STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

STRATEGIC PLAN

For Fiscal Years Ending
June 30, 2005 to June 30, 2008

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Richard K. Markuson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" and last name "Markuson" clearly legible. The initials "K." are written between the first and last names.

Signed: Richard K. Markuson, R.Ph.

MISSION STATEMENT

The statutory mission of the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy is to promote, preserve and protect the health, safety and welfare of the public by and through the effective control and regulation of the practice of pharmacy. That the sale and distribution of medications, devices and such other materials as may be used in the diagnosis and treatment of injury, illness and disease are handled and delivered in a manner that assures quality pharmaceutical care to the people of the state of Idaho.

VISION STATEMENT

The state now has in place language that allows the use of electronic signatures. This only addresses this practice in the writing of non-controlled substance prescriptions. In the future, we are anticipating a change at the federal level to allow this for controlled substance prescriptions. With the continued shortage of pharmacists in the workforce, we still anticipate an increase in automation within our pharmacies and utilization of central fill pharmacies. The Board is now reviewing the issue of Telepharmacies, which would allow for pharmacist oversight or coverage to an area not covered by these services. This would be accomplished by electronic, audio and video means. We continue to see robotics as an ever-increasing method of assisting pharmacists in the filling of prescriptions. Again, we envision possible changes in code or rules to address these issues.

We envision the use of more sophisticated electronic systems for the transmission of prescriptions between practitioners and pharmacies increasing legibility and decreasing the chance of error.

We continue to see an increase in information obtained through the electronic tracking system for controlled substances and the increased request for access to that information. This has been the result in the increase in the number of practitioners and the number of controlled substance prescriptions written. We envision the completion of our program to accept controlled substance prescription information from our pharmacies directly to our office, instead of through a third party.

We envision a review of the continuing education requirement for pharmacists and the inclusion of continued competency as part of that requirement. With the recent change in the ratio of pharmacy technicians to pharmacists, we will continue to monitor the requirements and duties of pharmacy technicians. We envision the continued interest in collaborative practice agreements between pharmacists and practitioners and pharmacists involvements in disease state management. We continue to support the addition of pharmacists as practitioners at the state and federal level.

We will continue to monitor the illegal importation and re-importation of prescription medication from countries outside the United States. We are also concerned with the availability of medications obtained through the Internet and the danger these may pose if adulterated, counterfeit or used for inappropriate purposes.

BOARD PHILOSOPHY

The Idaho Board of Pharmacy is committed to maintaining the highest standard of pharmaceutical care for the citizens of the State of Idaho. This can be accomplished by regulating the practice of pharmacy with the highest standards of ethics, accountability, efficiency, effectiveness, and openness with an assurance of a balanced and sensible approach to regulation.

OBJECTIVES

Maintain current staff, which includes one Technical Records Specialist having sole responsibility of maintaining the database for the electronic tracking program; one Technical Records Specialist and one Office Specialist that handle all licensing. Other office staff includes an Administrative Assistant and a Customer Service Representative. The Board also employs a Chief Compliance Officer, three Field Inspectors, two Controlled Substance Investigators and Director.

Actions/Strategies:

- Continue monitoring duties of office personnel for upgrades and the need for increase in staff as budgeting permits. 2005-2008
- Continue the training of the new inspector for North Idaho and increase the position to full time. 2005.
- Complete the hiring of a new controlled substance investigator as provided for in the current budget. Complete the in house program for controlled substance reporting eliminating the outside contract for reporting. 2005
- Identify educational and training needs for all personnel including board members and identifying resources and availability for training and education. Ongoing
- Evaluate the need as well as the outcome for education and training of programs utilized. This would include continuing education programs approved and provided by the Board of Pharmacy. Ongoing
- Provide orientation for new board members concerning their responsibilities, confidentiality issues, duties of the staff and board mission. Ongoing
- Continued review of the Idaho State University College of Pharmacy student clerkship program with the Board of Pharmacy. This would include duties and training of students assigned to the Board. Ongoing
- Continued review of technology that would allow on-line renewal of licensing, programs for field staff and the electronic tracking system.

OUTCOME: Increased efficiency for licensing, administrative matters and with investigations and inspections of facilities.

OUTPUT: Review current licensing programs.
Review areas of training for new computer programming.
Train new compliance officer and investigator.
Review adding or upgrading software and costs.

Actions/Strategies:

- Make available law programs in number of different areas in the state. Ongoing
- Provide orientation for pharmacy students. Ongoing
- Provide law exams for licensure. Ongoing

OUTCOME: Allows the pharmacists, technicians and practitioners to attend law programs in a number of different areas in the state giving them a number of opportunities for required continuing education. Helps students understand the Boards functions as well as an understanding of the law. Keeps licensees up to date on recent changes in the law as well as newly proposed code and rule changes.

OUTPUT: Offer law programs in all areas of the state and at times most convenient for attendance.

Develop pharmacy law exams for licensure.

Provide an overview of pharmacy law for graduating students and administer law exams for licensure.

Administer law exams for pharmacists reciprocating into Idaho.

Actions/Strategies:

- Develop legislation or rule changes required to maintain or expand the controlled substance tracking program. Ongoing
- Consider the need to add non-controlled medications that are showing signs of abuse to the controlled substance tracking program as well as the scheduling of these medications. Ongoing

OUTCOME: The Controlled Substance Tracking Program remains our best means of detecting prescription fraud, diversion and abuse. The use of non-copyable prescription blanks required for the writing of all controlled substance prescriptions is also a deterrent for drug diversion. The information that is readily available from the tracking program cuts investigation time and provides for quick response to

requests by practitioners and pharmacies. We continue to see an increase in requests for information by practitioners allowing practitioners to assist patients in dealing with what might be a problem of the inappropriate use of controlled substances. Because of our success with this program, three of our neighboring states have asked for assistance in developing similar programs. We also have had inquiries from other states throughout the country.

OUTPUT: Continue monitoring the use of non-copyable prescriptions blanks and other requirements for the writing and prescribing of controlled substance prescriptions. Maintain the Controlled Substance Tracking Program providing information to practitioners and pharmacies in a timely and accurate manner. Complete the program to bring the tracking program in-house.

Review current drug trends indicated by the drug-tracking program.

Continue to work with neighboring states to assist them in initiating a drug-tracking program.

Actions/Strategies:

- Continued review of current statutes and rules by Board and staff. This would be done in conjunction with the Office of the Attorney General, legislators, pharmacy associations, state agencies, health related associations, interested citizens, Ad Hoc Committees and by task force. Ongoing
- Review changes at the federal level effecting state statutes and rules. Ongoing
- Review other state's changes that may be applicable and recommendations and resolutions passed by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. Ongoing

OUTCOME: Insuring that existing code and rules are effective and current in regulating the profession of pharmacy and related professions always ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the state of Idaho.

OUTPUT: Review of existing code and recodification of all pharmacy rules. Prepare and submit code and rule changes.

Prepare, present and testify before legislative committee's code and rule changes proposed by the board.

Monitor and testify, if necessary on changes proposed by other agencies or entities.

Provide continuing education programs for pharmacists, students and other interested health care practitioners.

Actions/Strategies:

- Provide updates to recent changes to Idaho Code and Rules effecting pharmacy as well as changes to federal law. Ongoing
- Provide information on proposed changes to Idaho Code and Rules as well as possible changes in federal law. Ongoing
- Provide a quarterly Newsletter for all pharmacist and interested parties that includes information on current changes in law and other information affecting the practice of pharmacy and related health information. Ongoing

OUTCOME: Insures compliance with existing statutes and rules for pharmacists and other practitioners. Provides a means for pharmacists to fulfill their continuing education requirement for law.

OUTPUT: Provide required law books for pharmacies with current updates.

Write and disseminate a Board of Pharmacy Newsletter on a quarterly basis.

Actions/Strategies:

- Continue to monitor the illegal importation and re-importation of medications obtained from foreign pharmacies and wholesalers. Ongoing.
- Monitor Internet sites offering for sale medications to Idaho patients. Ongoing

OUTCOME: Protecting patient's health and safety by assuring they receive only medications that meet FDA standards.

OUTPUT: Monitor any activity in the state purporting to provide prescription programs for patients to obtain medications from a foreign pharmacy.

Monitor any sites, pharmacies or practitioners in the state involved in the prescribing, filling of prescriptions through the Internet.

Educate patients with information concerning the dangers of receiving medications from unknown or foreign entities.

Provide information for patients to locate assistance programs for medications.